

February, 2009

### **Financial Aid Tip Sheet for Students who are Homeless**

New FAFSA procedures are in effect for homeless and foster care students. Changes have been made to the financial aid process to allow homeless and foster care students to obtain “independent student” status to apply for financial aid without parental income information or signatures. Please see the attached information about these new FAFSA procedures.

- 1) The “fafsa tips” attachment provides specific information about how to complete the FAFSA form.
- 2) The “2009 FAFSA form” is a form a district homeless liaison, HUD shelter directors, or runaway youth shelter directors can use to assist unaccompanied youth in applying for financial aid. A student will need to either obtain a letter, or this form, completed by the district homeless liaison or shelter director, as part of the students’ financial aid application.

Additional information about this process can be obtained from the National Association for the Education of Homeless Children and Youth (NAEHCY) website, <http://www.naehcy.org> under “Legislation and Policy, Higher Education.” The National Center for Homeless Education (NCHE) also offers additional scholarship information at [http://www.serve.org/nche/ibt/higher\\_ed.php](http://www.serve.org/nche/ibt/higher_ed.php).

Just a reminder that if you have a homeless student who also received Title I services, Title I scholarship applications are due February 17, 2009. More information is available at <http://www.wt1a.com>.

Students can also begin to apply for Talent Incentive Program (TIP) grants. Please see <http://dpi.wi.gov/weop/index.html> for additional information.

The LeTendre Scholarship program also offers scholarships for students who are homeless. Applications are accepted throughout the year, and awarded in the fall. More information is available at <http://www.naehcy.org>.

Please contact Mary Maronek, Coordinator, Education for Homeless Children and Youth (EHCY) program at [mary.maronek@dpi.wi.gov](mailto:mary.maronek@dpi.wi.gov) or (608) 261-6322 with questions regarding financial aid for students who are homeless.